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FEMA-28
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# Can Your Home Pass The Winter Survival Test?

Federal Emergency Management Agency / National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration · U.S. Department of Commerce

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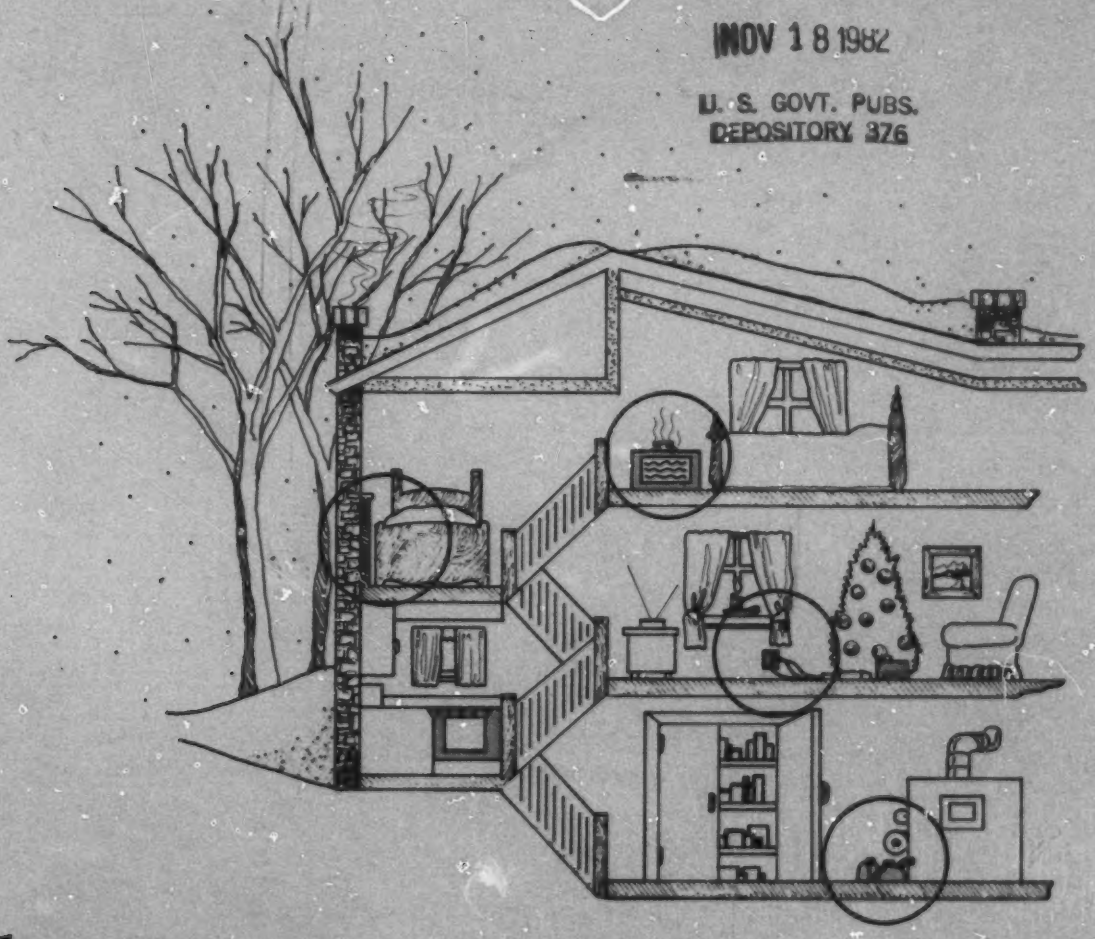

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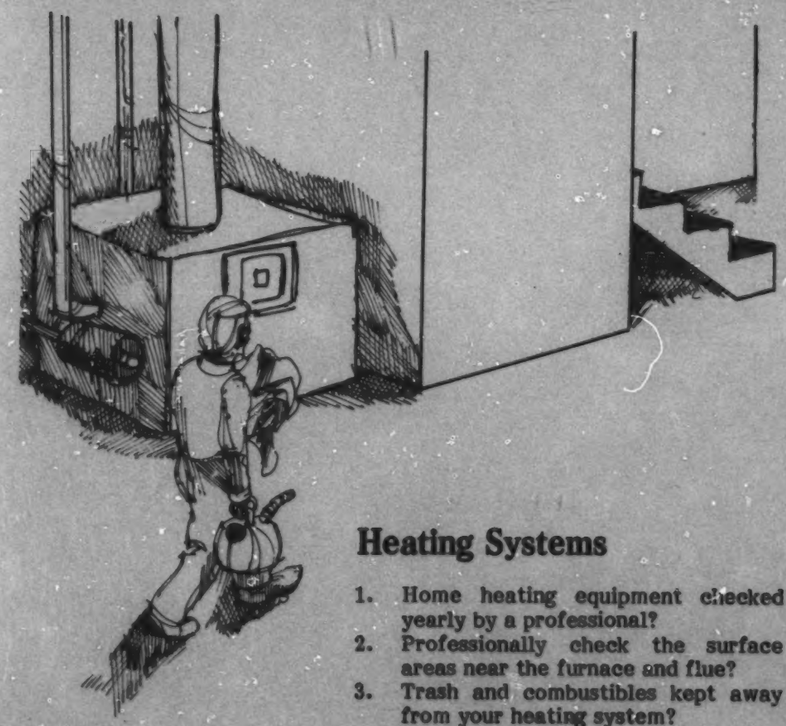
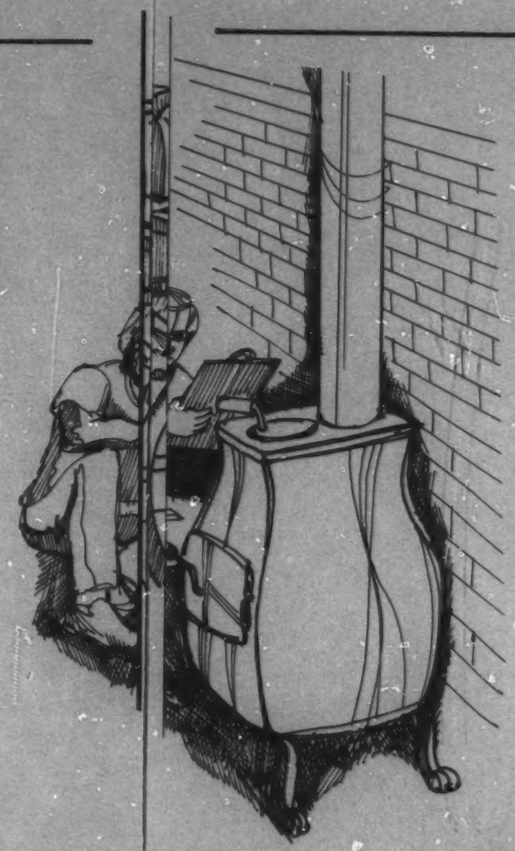
# Can Your Home Pass The Winter Survival Test?

Your home can keep you warm and protected during the worst blizzards and freezing temperatures—if you're ready for them. Thinking about safety precautions before winter storms strike can save you unnecessary hardship and worry when temperatures drop. Now's the time to brush up on your winter preparation skills. Take this simple test and check many potential household trouble spots now.



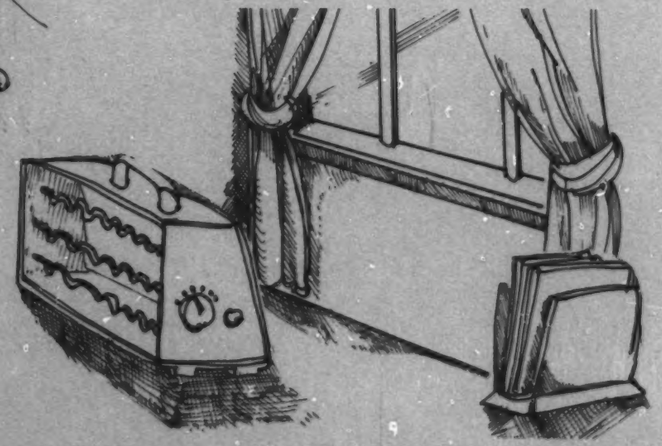
## Heating Systems

| | | Yes | No |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Home heating equipment checked yearly by a professional? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 2. | Professionally check the surface areas near the furnace and flue? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 3. | Trash and combustibles kept away from your heating system? | ☐ | ☐ |



## Room Heaters and Fireplaces

| | | Yes | No |
|---|---|---|---|
| 4. | Fireplace protected by a metal fire screen? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 5. | Damper open before lighting the wood stove or fireplace? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 6. | Your room heater or fireplace cleaned lately? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 7. | Fill your oil or kerosene heater while it is burning? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 8. | Flue pipes clean and well-supported? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 9. | Gasoline or kerosene stored outside? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 10. | Use appropriate fuel (kerosene for outdoor heaters, K-2 for indoor)? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 11. | Proper clearances provided around space heaters? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 12. | Small children kept away from fireplaces and stove heaters? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 13. | Check your fireplace before bedtime? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 14. | Accumulated ashes removed from your wood stove? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 15. | Cracks or loose bricks in your chimney? | ☐ | ☐ |

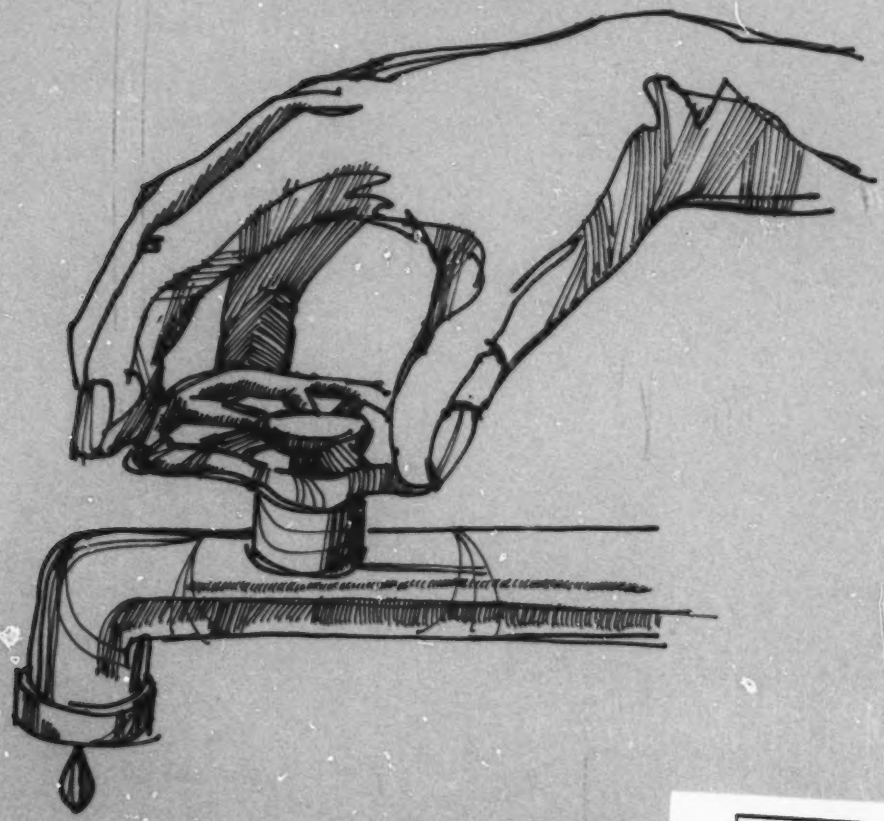


## Kitchen

| | Yes | No |
|---|---|---|
| 16. Gas range or oven used to heat your kitchen? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 17. Emergency supply of nonperishable food? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 18. Emergency water supply? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 19. Eat well-balanced, nutritional meals (at home and away)? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 20. Filters in your exhaust fans cleaned lately? | ☐ | ☐ |

## Pipes

| | Yes | No |
|---|---|---|
| 21. Hot water pipes wrapped in newspapers or specially made, water pipe insulation? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 22. Seal openings around pipes with caulk or fiberglass insulation? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 23. Know location of the main water valve? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 24. When pipes freeze, would you remove insulation, wrap with rags, open faucets, and pour hot water on pipes? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 25. When it is extremely cold, do you let your faucets drip a little? | ☐ | ☐ |



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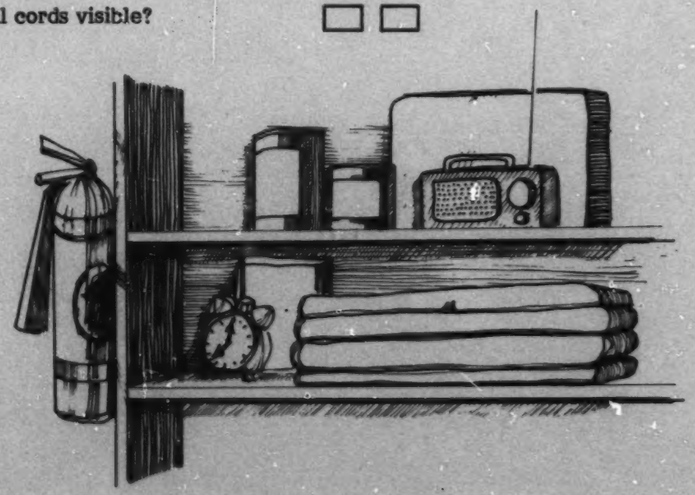
## Emergency Supplies

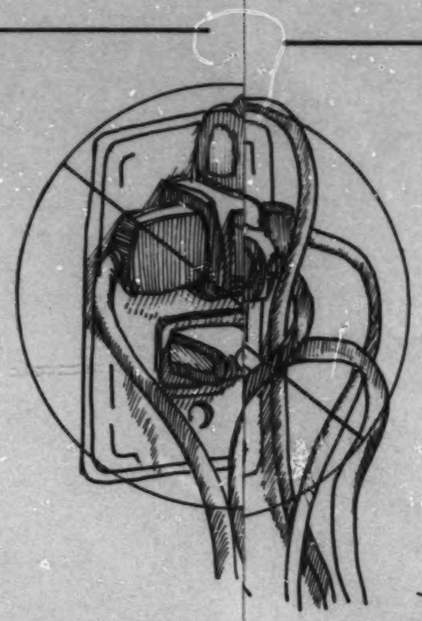
| | Yes | No |
|---|---|---|
| 26. Have the following emergency supplies on hand? | ☐ | ☐ |

Extra candles
Matches
Battery-powered radio and extra batteries
Flashlight
Extra medical supplies
Fire extinguisher
Nonelectric clock
Nonelectric can opener
Several lightweight blankets

## Wiring

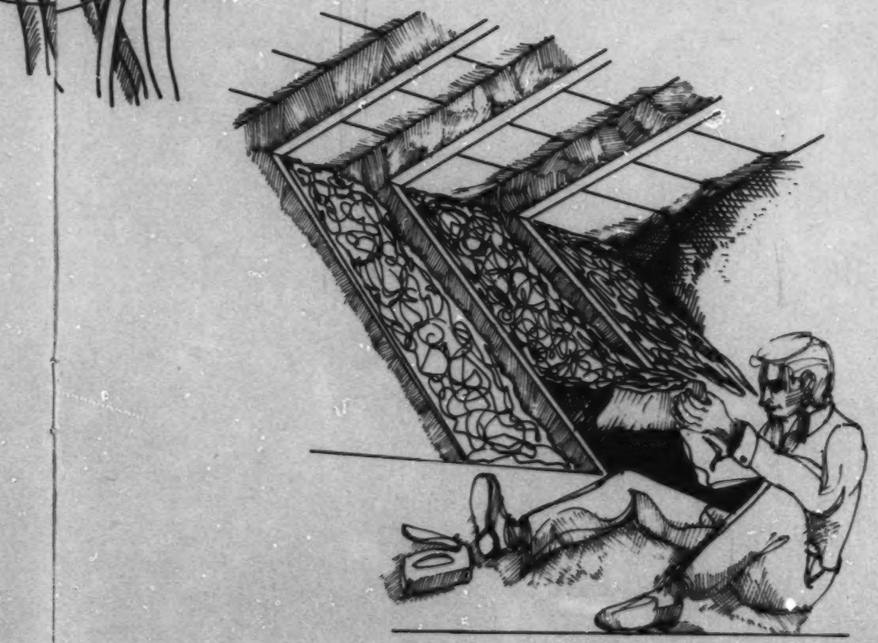
| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 27. Routinely check electrical cords for wear? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 28. Overloaded circuits and extension cords? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 29. Electrical cords visible? | ☐ | ☐ |





## General

| | Yes | No |
|---|---|---|
| 30. Storm windows installed? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 31. Weatherstripped attic and basement doors? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 32. Emergency numbers near the telephone? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 33. Agree with neighbors to keep a watchful eye on one another during severe winter weather? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 34. Wear loose-fitting, layered clothing? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 35. Wear a hat during cold months? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 36. Before the season starts, do you clean leaves out of gutters? | ☐ | ☐ |



## Score

You should have answered "Yes" to all items except 7, 15, and 28. If you did, your winter safety skills are ready for the cold season. If you didn't, there is still time to prepare your family and your home for severe winter weather. Hurry! Severe winter storms can catch you off guard!

## A FEW MORE WINTER HINTS . . .

Keep posted on weather conditions. Even a few hours' notice will help you and your family to cope better with severe winter weather.

Winter can be an enjoyable season, but we must be prepared for its hazards. Thinking ahead can make your winter safe and comfortable.

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